

Banners for sale to honor hometown veterans

By Abigail Walker

This November, Clinton is putting its support for local veterans on full display. Forty-eight banners will be hung along the Clinton Parkway this Veterans Day as part of the "Honoring Our Heroes" project organized by the Clinton Visitor Center. The program is a chance for Clintonians to honor those who have served the country in the U.S. Armed Forces, Air Force, Navy, National Guard, or Reserve Units.

The 24" x 54" vinyl banners will include a picture of the veteran in uniform, their name, branch, era, and their years of service. They will go up on Veterans Day 2017 and be displayed until December 1, and they will reappear on patriotic holidays in 2018.

"The idea for a veteran banner program came about when Mayor Fisher was out of town and viewed

a city paying tribute to their local veterans with banners," says Clinton Visitor Center Director Masha Barham.

Barham says the Visitor Center has done several projects to honor veterans since she became director five years ago. In November 2012, the "Fallen Comrade" sculpture by Dr. Samuel Marshall Gore was unveiled at the Clinton Visitor Center for Veterans Day. The sculpture depicted Marine Joe Albritton as he carried fellow Clintonian Marine Homer Ainsworth from the battlefield during the Korean War.

"The unveiling of the sculpture was a wonderful experience, and to have this sculpture at the Clinton Visitor Center is such an honor," Barham says. "That year, I set a goal to have a time to honor all our

veterans each year."

Since 2012, the Clinton Visitor Center has hosted an activity or display each year on the Sunday prior to Veterans Day.

"We always have special patriotic music, wonderful veteran tribute addresses by outstanding military officials as we gather by the sculpture. The DAR has provided light

Online order forms can be filled out and paid for via www.clintonms.org/veterantributebanner or can be picked up at the Clinton Visitor Center at 1300 Pinehaven Road.

refreshments many years," Barham says.

In 2015, people purchased ribbons for \$2 to honor military veterans and active duty personnel, as well as first responders, such as police officers, firefighters, and EMT personnel.

"The trees behind the Fallen Comrade sculpture were named 'The Tribute Trees,' and we hung four hundred yellow ribbons on the trees in honor of America's heroes," says Barham.

In 2016, Marine veterans Bob and Richard Catlett displayed "Mississippi's Faces of the Fallen," which included a photograph and information of one hundred five military service members who died during the War on Terrorism from 1991 to 2013. Boy scout Noah Martinolich helped Barham direct

the program for his Eagle Scout service project.

Residents have until August 31 to turn in forms and pay for one of the 48 available spots.

For more information, contact the Visitor Center at 601-924-2221, or email visitorcenter@clintonms.org.

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Clinton teens showcase talents at Mississippi College music camp

music camp.

Attendees say that Mississippi College's music camp is much more than a nice setting to learn from outstanding professors.

"I really like the people—they are so outgoing," says Landon Maughon, fourteen, a home-schooled student. "I'm making new friends." At the same time, the Clinton resident sharpened his talents as a pianist.

MC music camp director Robert Knupp is delighted with the response and the progress the kids made in a

few days.

In recent years, MC music camp leaders tried to sign up as many students as possible. The staff took a different approach in 2017.

"This year, we intentionally targeted students who show a high aptitude for music," Knupp said. "Judging by the campers we [had] this year, we have succeeded in that goal."

New faces at the music camp included professor Will Bishop. In late August, the University of Mem-

phis graduate will go to work as the director of MC's new worship leadership program. Bishop led the camp's worship band.

MC Singers conductor Mark Nabholz, director of the camp choir, knew one of the campers quite well. His daughter, Laura Nabholz, fourteen, a Clinton Junior High student, wants to get better at playing the organ and piano. Knupp's daughter, Kathryn, who also attends Clinton Junior High, hopes to become a better singer.

The list of MC music professors helping staff the camp included Angela Willoughby, Lewis Oswald, Craig Young, Ben Williams, Michael Rushing, Tyler Kemp and Viola Dacus.

Campers this year came from as far away as Corinth, New Albany, Oxford, Starkville, Gulfport and Metairie, Louisiana.

Campers formed a band called "Cactus Legs." The teens made their debut at a talent show at the Jean Pittman Williams Recital Hall.





